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USSR

Ref. No: [REDACTED]

Issued: [REDACTED] 25/4/1961

Copy No: 2014

DECISION TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THEODORE HALL (1944)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No: 1585

12 Nov. 44

To VIKTOR. [1]

BEK [ii] visited Theodore HALL [TEODOR KHOLL], [iii] 19 years old, the son of a furrier. He is a graduate of HARVARD University. As a talented physicist he was taken on for government work. He was a GYMNAST [FIZKUL'TURNIK] [iv] and conducted work in the Steel Founders' Union. [a] According to BEK's account HALL has an exceptionally keen mind and a broad outlook, and is politically developed. At the present time H. is in charge of a group at "CAMP-2" [v] (SANTA-FE). H. handed over to BEK a report about the CAMP and named the key personnel employed on ENORMOUS. [vi] He decided to do this on the advice of his colleague Saville SAX [SAVIL SAKS], [vii] a GYMNAST living in TYRE. [viii] SAX's mother is a FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN [ZEMLYAK] [ix] and works for RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF. With the aim of hastening a meeting with a competent person, H. on the following day sent a copy of the report by S. to the PLANT [ZAVOD]. [x] ALEKSEJ [xi] received S. H. had to leave for CAMP-2 in two days' time. He [b] was compelled to make a decision quickly. Jointly with MAY [MAJ] [xii] he gave BEK consent to feel out H., to assure him that everything was in order and to arrange liaison with him. H. left his photograph and came to an understanding with BEK about a place for meeting him. BEK met S. [1 group garbled] our automobile. We consider it expedient to maintain liaison with H. [1 group unidentified] through S. and not to bring in anybody else. MAY has no objection to this. We shall send the details by post.

No. 897
11th November

[Signature missing]

Distribution

[Notes and Comments overleaf]

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Notes: [a] I.e. Trade Union [PROFSOYUZ].

[b] I.e. ALEKSEJ.

Comments: [i] VIKTOR : Lt. Gen. P. M. FITIN.

[ii] BEK : Sergej Nikolaevich KURNAKOV.

[iii] HALL : Theodore Alvin HALL.

[iv] GYMNAST : Possibly a member of the Young Communist League.

[v] CAMP-2 : LOS ALAMOS.

[vi] ENORMOUS: Manhattan Engineering District - U.S. Atomic Energy
Project.

[vii] SAX [REDACTED]

[viii] TYRE : NEW YORK CITY.

[ix] FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN: Member of the Communist Party.

[x] PLANT : Soviet Consulate.

[xi] ALEKSEJ : Anatolij Antonovich YAKOVLEV, Soviet Vice-Consul in
NEW YORK.

[xii] MAY : Stepan Zakharovich, APRESYAN, Soviet Vice-Consul in
NEW YORK.

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USSR
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Ref. No: [redacted]
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DECISION TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THEODORE HALL (1944)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No: 1585

12 Nov. 44

To VIKTOR [i]

BEK [ii] visited Theodore HALL [TEODOR KhOLL], [iii] 19 years old, the son of a furrier. He is a graduate of HARVARD University. As a talented physicist he was taken on for government work. He was a GYMNAST [FIZKUL'TURNIK] [iv] and conducted work in the Steel Founders' Union. [a] According to BE's account HALL has an exceptionally keen mind and a broad outlook, and is politically developed. At the present time H. is in charge of a group at "CAMP-2" [v] (SANTA-FE). H. handed over to BEK a report about the CAMP and named the key personnel employed on ENORMOUS. [vi] He decided to do this on the advice of his colleague Saville [SAVIL SAKS] [vii] a GYMNAST living in TYRE. [viii] SAK's mother is a FELLOWCOUNTRYMAN [ZEMLYak] [ix] and works for RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF. With the aim of hastening a meeting with a competent person, H. on the following day sent a copy of the report by S. to the PLANT [ZAVOD]. [x] ALEKSEJ [xi] received S. H. had to leave for CAMP-2 in two days time. He [b] was compelled to make a decision quickly. Jointly with MAY [MAJ] [xii] he gave BEK consent to feel out H., to assure him that everything was in order and to arrange liaison with him. H. left his photograph and came to an understanding with BEK about a place for meeting him. BEK met S. [1 group garbled] our automobile. We consider it expedient to maintain liaison with H. [1 group unidentified] through S. and not to bring it to anybody else. MAY has no objection to this. We shall send the details by post.

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